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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 657
By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate East Tennessee State University's School of Nursing on being ranked 26th in the nation among nurse practitioner programs.

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the members of this General Assembly should honor those exemplary academic institutions that have had a significant impact on this great state; and

WHEREAS, East Tennessee State University's College of Nursing is one such estimable institution, having been recently ranked 26th in the nation for its outstanding nurse practitioner program by *U.S. News and World Report*; and

WHEREAS, the ETSU School of Nursing achieved this outstanding ranking in competition with more than 300 other schools; and

WHEREAS, the nurse practitioner program is part of ETSU's Master of Science in Nursing program; and

WHEREAS, East Tennessee State University first introduced their nursing program in 1991, and graduated its first class in 1992; and

WHEREAS, as of November 1997, eighty percent of ETSU's nursing graduates were practicing in rural communities and in areas where there is a tremendous need for health professionals; and

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WHEREAS, this prestigious ranking is a great source of pride for the Dean of Nursing, Dr. Joellen B. Edwards, ETSU, and the entire community; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to congratulate this fine institution of higher learning on their prestigious honor; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate East Tennessee State University's College of Nursing on being ranked among the top nursing programs in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report* and wish them much success in future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.